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**AUTHORITY**

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IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (16 Jul 70)

FOR OT-UT-702111

(19)

SUBJECT: Operational Report (6) Lessons Learned Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970 (U)

(4)

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11 7 May 70

12 18-p.

22 July 1970

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ROBERT E. LYNCH  
Colonel, AGC  
Acting The Adjutant General

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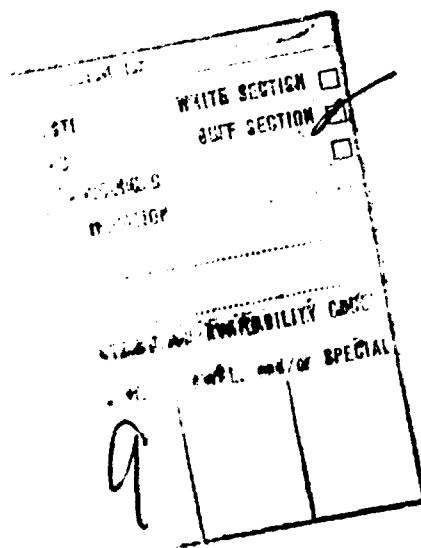
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7th Battalion, 8th Artillery



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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 7TH BATTALION 8TH FIELD ARTILLERY  
(AUTOMATIC EIGHTH)  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96227

AVFB-FA-AC

7 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report—Lessons Learned, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R2)

THRU: Commanding General  
II Field Force Vietnam Artillery  
ATTN: AVFB-FAC  
APO 96266

Commanding General  
II Field Force Vietnam  
ATTN: AVFBC-RE  
APO 96266

Commanding General  
United States Army Vietnam  
ATTN: AVHGC-DST  
APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief  
United States Army Pacific  
ATTN: GPOP-DT  
APO 96558

FOR OT UT  
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AVFB-FA-AC

7 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report---Lessons Learned, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

## 1. (C) Operations: Significant Activities

a. Normal operations consistent with the battalion mission of general support of II Field Forces were conducted.

b. Unit activities.

(1) Battery A Unit Activities: On 16 Feb 70 the 175 platoon from Alpha Battery displaced from FSB Echo to Nui Dat joining its 8-inch platoon there. On 3 Mar 70 the 8-inch platoon moved from Nui Dat to FSB Colorado where it supported the 2nd Brigade 25th Infantry Division in that area. On 5 Mar 70 the 175 platoon returned to FSB Echo from Nui Dat where it remained until 9 Mar and then moved back to Nui Dat. On 18 Mar the 175 platoon at Nui Dat returned to its base camp at FSB Echo. On 12 Apr the 175 platoon at Echo was reconfigured to 8-inch and displaced on 13 Apr to FSB Jarrett. On 18 Apr the 8-inch platoon at Jarrett returned to FSB Echo. Finally on 20 Apr the 8-inch platoon at Echo displaced to Long Thanh where it rendered support to the RTAVF forces and remained until the end of the reporting period.

(2) Battery B Unit Activities: On 27 Feb 70, the 175 platoon moved from FSB Libby to FSB Hai to support a CIDG operation. On 2 Mar 70 the 175 platoon displaced back to FSB Libby from FSB Hai. On 10 Mar the 8-inch platoon moved from FSB Michelle to Bravo Battery's base camp location at Xuan Loc. On 18 Mar 70 the 8-inch platoon displaced to Nui Dat where it replaced A Battery's 175 platoon. On 24 Mar Bravo's 175 platoon moved from FSB Libby to FSB Nguyen Hue supporting the CIDG in the area on another operation called "Delta Project". On the 26th of March the 8-inch platoon moved from Nui Dat to FSB Horseshoe to support an Australian operation and returned to Nui Dat on 1 Apr 70. Again on 9 Apr the 8-inch platoon moved from Nui Dat to FSB Horseshoe. On 20 Apr the 175 platoon from FSB Nguyen Hue returned to its base camp at Xuan Loc. On the 25th of Apr the 175 platoon at Xuan Loc moved to FSB Echo remaining there overnight and moving to FSB Jarrett on 26 Apr. Finally the 8-inch platoon at FSB Horseshoe displaced to FSB Echo on the 29th of April.

(3) Battery C Unit Activities: On 10 Feb 70 the 175 platoon from C Battery's base camp location at Blackhorse displaced to FSB Mace remaining there supporting elements of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade until 21 Mar 70 when it returned to Blackhorse. On 29 Mar 70 the 8-inch platoon displaced from Blackhorse to Mace. On 30 Mar 70 one 8-inch section displaced to FSB Rising Sun from Mace and remained there until 4 Apr when it displaced from Rising Sun to Vo Xu. In addition on 4 Apr the other 8-inch section displaced from FSB Mace to FSB Vo Xu. On 14 Apr the 8-inch platoon at Vo Xu displaced to FSB Mace remaining there overnight and displaced from Mace to FSB Mat on the 15th of April and remained there until the end of the reporting period.

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AVPB-PA-AC

7 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report---Lessons Learned, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSPOR-65(R2)

(4) In summary elements of this battalion participated in 28 moves of heavy platoons supporting units in the southern portion of the III Corps Tactical Zone.

(5) The Dong Tien Program: The battalion meteorological section completed on 3 March 70 a nine day course of instruction for ARVN NCOs on Visual Meteorological Procedures. The students were extremely capable, learned the subject well, and will now conduct schools of this type for personnel of III Corps Artillery.

(6) Missions and ammunition expenditures. The following number of missions were fired with a total ammunition expenditure listed below:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>NUMBER OF MISSIONS FIRED</u>		<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</u>	
	<u>8"</u>	<u>175mm</u>	<u>8"</u>	<u>175mm</u>
FEBRUARY 1970				
Btry A	158	352	610	995
Btry B	94	69	505	295
Btry C	<u>78</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>396</u>	<u>736</u>
TOTAL	330	606	1511	2026
MARCH 1970				
Btry A	220	221	1141	555
Btry B	251	71	793	279
Btry C	<u>136</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>556</u>	<u>416</u>
TOTAL	607	432	2490	1267
APRIL 1970				
Btry A	315	57	1917	78
Btry B	341	82	1290	606
Btry C	<u>326</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>1111</u>	<u>603</u>
TOTAL	982	289	4318	1287

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7 May 1970

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(7) Surveillances. During the reporting period the battalion received credit for the following:

(a) Enemy KIA	213
(b) Possible KIA	3
(c) Destroyed Bunkers	205
(d) Sampans	2
(e) Houses	6
(f) Secondary Explosions	22
(g) Tunnels Closed	1
(h) Fighting Positions	11
(i) Damaged Bunkers	2
(j) Bridge	1
(k) Bunker Complexes	2
(l) Trenches	6
(m) Base Camps	4
(n) Bridges Damaged	3

(8) Intelligence: Target Acquisition.

(a) During this reporting period the battalion has had use of an OIE aircraft for visual reconnaissance missions. The battalion is responsible for conducting visual reconnaissance missions in the Long Binh/Bien Hoa area. Coordinates YT 970300, YT 150100, YT 070130, XT 970190.

(b) During the period 1 February 1970 through 30 April 1970, 119 missions were flown in 390 hours.

(c) A significant portion of the aircraft time was spent providing air cover to the numerous tactical moves in which the battalion participated. In addition the aircraft was utilized for registering the batteries and in the conduct of normal visual reconnaissance.

(9) Training:

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7 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

(a) Due to continuous turnover of experienced personnel, emphasis has been and will continue to be placed on job-oriented training. Particular emphasis has been placed on the battalion schools program. Due to the lack of school trained FDC personnel present in the battalion, an intensive effort was made to train basic cannoneers to FDC specialists through a 44-hour course of instruction at battalion level. This program has been very successful in supplementing FDC personnel which require augmentation during split battery operations.

(b) Battalion schools conducted during this period were as follows:

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE DATES</u>	<u># OF STUDENTS</u>
RTO Procedure	14 Feb 70	5
Fire Direction (EM)	16-21 Feb 70	4
Bn/Btry Administration	26 Feb 70	6
Fire Direction (EM)	23-28 Feb 70	5
Fire Direction (EM)	1-7 Mar 70	6
Fire Direction (EM)	9-11 Mar 70	3
PLL/TAERS	14 Mar 70	10
Fire Direction (EM)	16-21 Mar 70	6
Generator Operator	23 Apr 70	11
RTO Procedures	25 Apr 70	7
Fire Direction (EM)	27 Apr-2 May 70	7

2. Lessons Learned: Commander's observations, evaluations and recommendations.

- a. Personnel: None
- b. Intelligence: None
- c. Operations: None
- d. Organization: None
- e. Training: None
- f. Logistics:

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AVFB-FA-AC

7 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report----Lessons Learned, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

(1) Observation: The frequency of displacements that heavy artillery is required to perform in this area necessitates that units travel fully prepared to rapidly construct bunkers upon occupation of position.

(2) Evaluation: In the past, bunkers were constructed in a rather haphazard fashion with whatever tools and material were available. This solution proved largely unsatisfactory as it was both time consuming and did not offer proper protection. Consequently a pre-cut ammunition bunker and personnel bunker which was completely pre-cut to required specifications by battalion's Service Battery was devised and tested. The schematic diagram of the prefab ammo bunker is attached at Inclosure 1; the personnel bunker is attached at Inclosure 2. These pre-cut bunker kits were issued to platoons on operations and proved very successful in ease of construction, time to emplace and tear down, and providing required protection for ammunition and personnel.

(3) Recommendation: This type of pre-cut ammo and personnel bunkers may prove useful to other units which are required to displace often and require bunkers for ammunition and personnel.

g. Communications: None

h. Material: None

i. Other: None

2 Incl  
as



RONALD J. LEMANSKI  
LTC, FA  
Commanding

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AVFB-FAC (30 April 70) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery  
for Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96266

TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFBC-RE, APO 96266

This headquarters has reviewed the quarterly report of the 7th Battalion,  
8th Artillery and concurs in operations and lessons learned as reported.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



R. G. PARRISH  
LTC, FA  
Adjutant

AVFBC-RE (7 May 70) 2d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery  
for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HQ, II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 5 JUN 1970

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC(DST), APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the  
Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Artillery.

2. (U) Reference item concerning "Pre-cut Ammunition and Personnel Bunkers", page 5-6, paragraph 2f. A detailed analysis cannot be made from the data provided, however there appears to be some design and construction deficiencies. Specific observations have been provided to the reporting unit with the recommendation that they request analysis and design support from the nearest non-divisional engineer battalion.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

CF:  
CO, II FFORCEV Arty  
CO, 7th Bn, 8th Arty

  
W. C. BARTEL,  
CPT, AGC  
Ass't AG

AVHGC-DST (7 May 70) 2d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report----Lessons Learned, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R2)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 25 JUN 1970

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Artillery and concurs with the comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. Reference item concerning "Bunkers," page 6, para f(1); concur. An analysis of the Prefab Ammo Bunkers as designed by the 7th Battalion was not performed by HQ, USAECV (P). However, standard designs for field fortifications are being prepared by HQ, USAECV (P) and will include provisions for displacement where it is practical and feasible.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



Clark W. Stevens Jr.  
Captain AGC  
Assistant Adjutant General

CF:  
HQ, 7th Bn, 8th Field ARTY  
HQ, IIFFV

GPOP-DT (7 May 70) 4th Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 7th Battalion, 8th Field Arty Bn  
for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 6 JUL 70

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the  
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



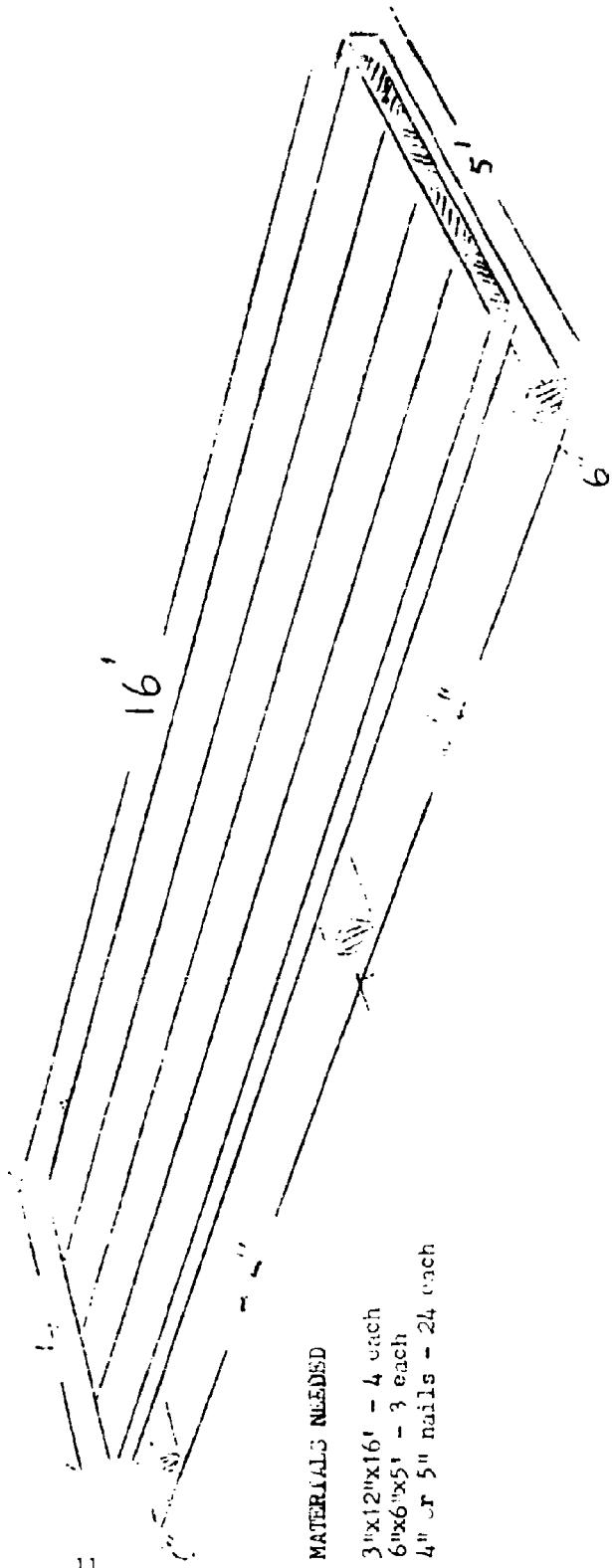
D.D. CLINE  
2LT, AGC  
Asst AG

**PREFAB AMMO BUNKER**

1. Construct floor using 3"x12"x16' and 6"x6"x5' lumber nailed together as shown below.

**TOTAL MATERIALS NEEDED**

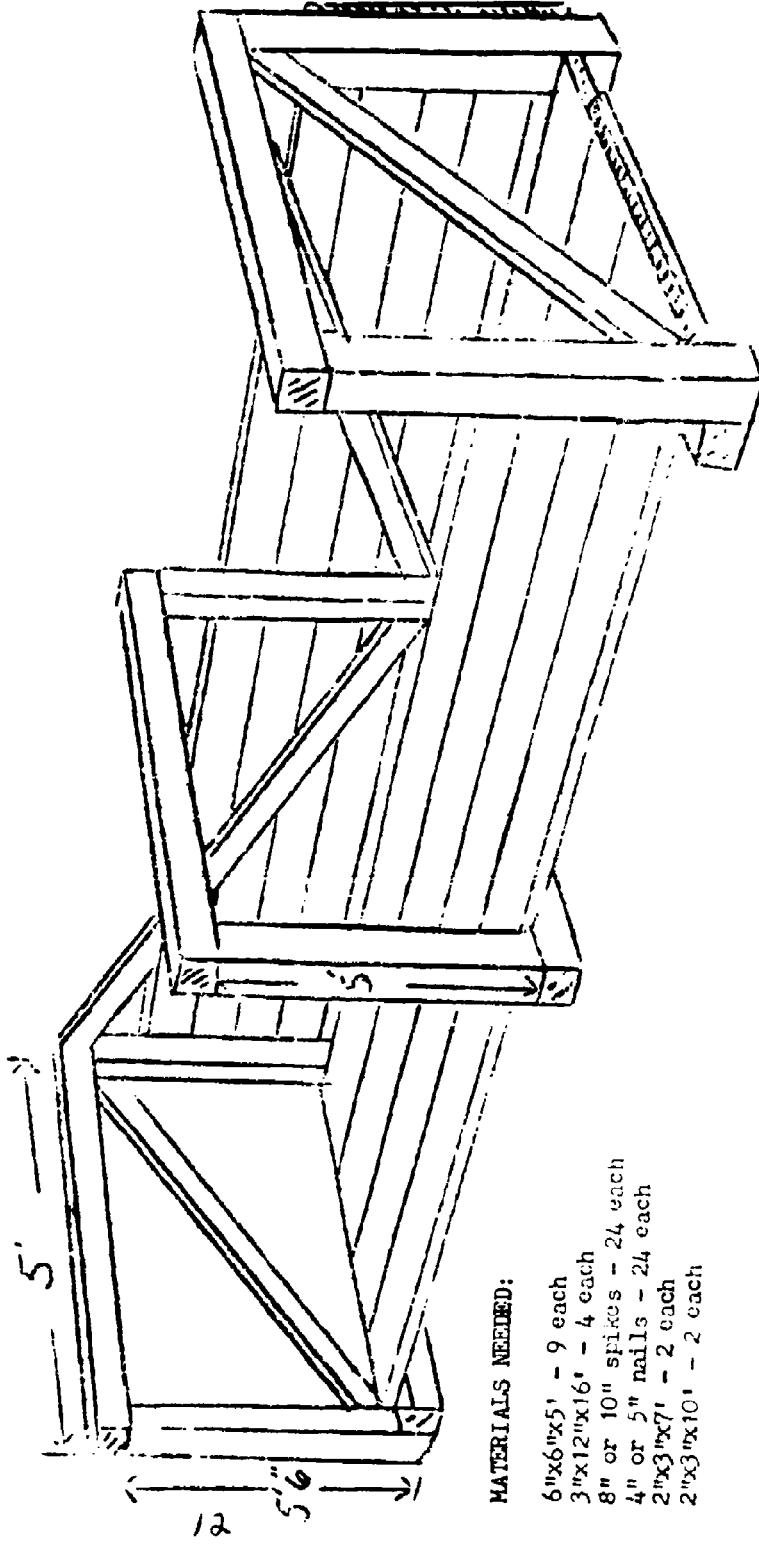
3"x12"x16' - 13 each  
3"x12"x5' - 8 each  
6"x6"x5' - 12 each  
8" or 10" nails - 24 each  
4" or 5" rails - 98 each  
2"x3"x7' - 2 each  
2"x3"x10' - 2 each



**MATERIALS NEEDED**

3"x12"x16' - 4 each  
6"x6"x5' - 3 each  
4" or 5" nails - 24 each

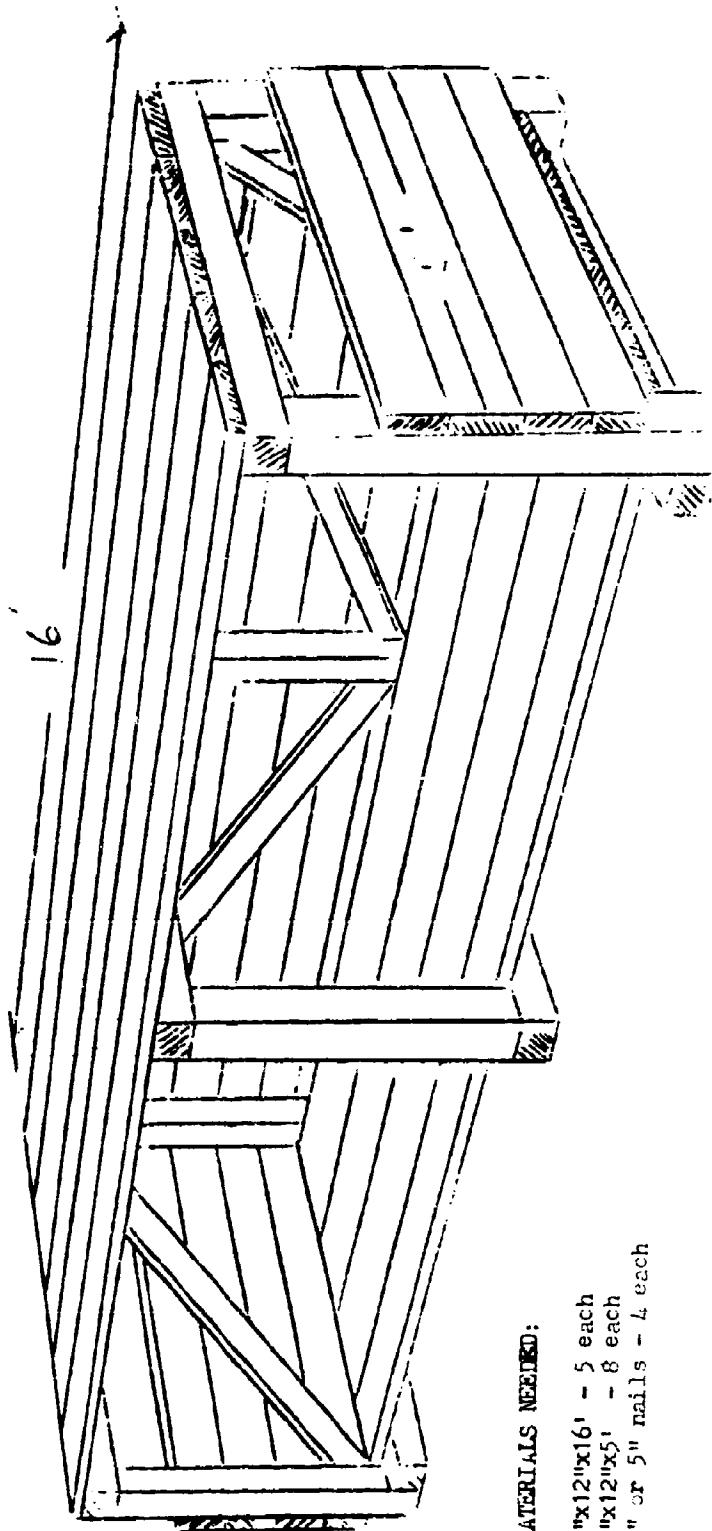
2. Construct frame for ammo bunker with 6"x6" x 5' lumber and reinforce by nailing 3"x12"x16" lumber to back wall as shown below. Use at least two 8" or 10" spikes in each 6"x6" to secure to other piece of 6"x6" lumber. Be sure to install cross braces as shown.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

6"x6"x5' - 9 each  
3"x12"x16" - 4 each  
8" or 10" spikes - 24 each  
4" or 5" nails - 24 each  
2"x3"x7" - 2 each  
2"x3"x10" - 2 each

3. Attach plumb bob to check for sway in bunker on the top center 6"x6" beam. Place nail in the floor as a plumb bob center point. Leave permanently installed.
4. a. Install roof with 5 each 3"x12"x16".  
b. Install two side walls with four each 3"x12"x5" on each side as shown below.
5. Bunker with at least 3 layers of neatly arranged and firmly tamped sandbags on roof and the equivalent of at least 3 layers (neatly arranged and tamped) sandbags on all sides. Side sandbags must be pyramided.
6. Construct blastwall along open side of bunker.



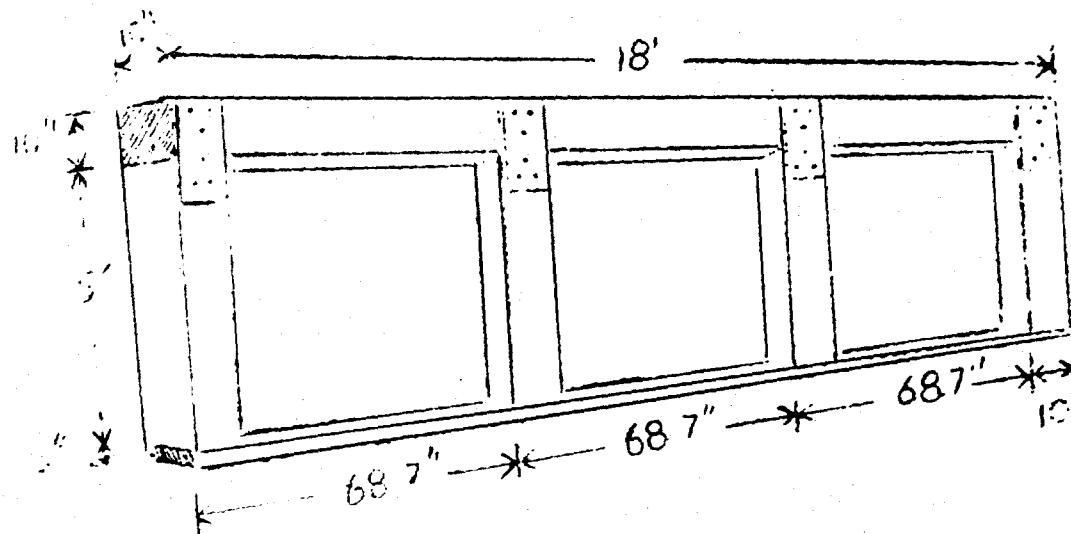
**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

3"x12"x16" - 5 each  
3"x12"x5" - 8 each  
4" or 5" nails - 4 each

PREFABRICATED BUNKER CONSTRUCTION

STEP # 1

CONSTRUCT 2 SIDE WALLS AS SHOWN



LUMBER REQUIRED FOR SIDEWALLS  
FOR 2 WALLS

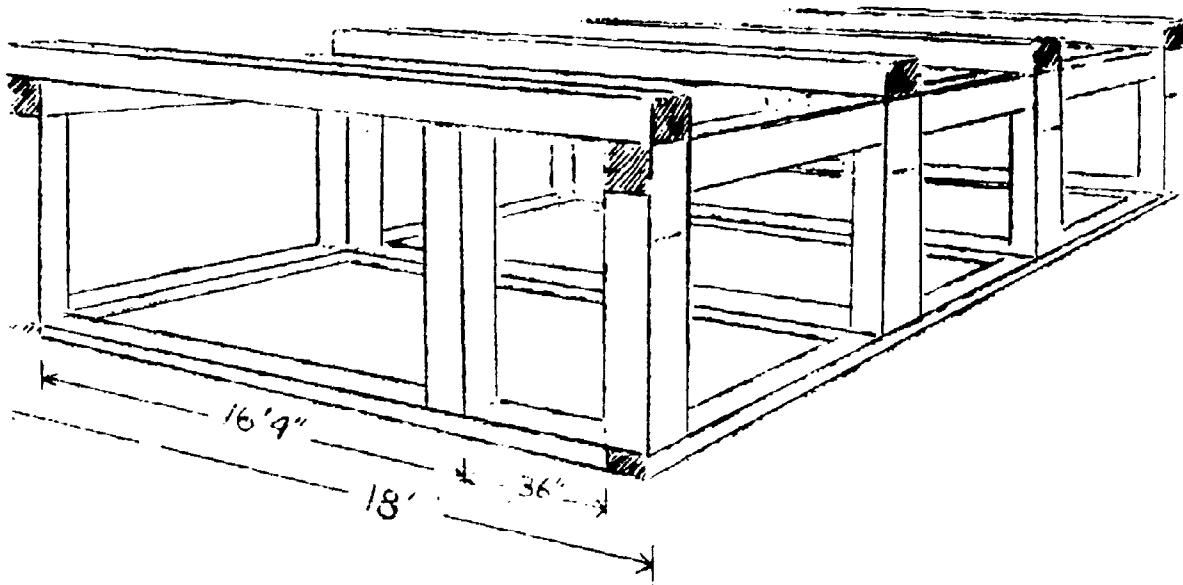
10" x 10" x 16'	1ea	2ea
10" x 10" x 5"	4ea	8ea
3" x 12" x 16"	1ea	2ea
2" x 10" x 23"	8ea	16ea

STEP #2:

A. Erect 2 side walls

B. Place 4-16'4" floor spacers between side walls aligned with 5' uprights.

C. Place 10"x10"x18' roof stringers on sidewalls and anchor with one 12" drift pin on each end of each roof stringer.



LUMBER REQUIRED

10" x 10" x 18'..... 4 each  
3" x 12" x 16'4"..... 4 each  
3" x 12" x 18'..... 2 each

STEP #3

A. Install plumb bob device from one of the center roof stringers to the ground.

B. Install plumb bob center point marker in a permanent location in the ground beneath the center of the plumb bob.

STEP #4

A. Lay roof with 3" x 12" x 18' lumber ( 18 each )

B. Nail roof to roof stringers.

STEP #5: Construct side walls with 5 each 3" x 12" x 18' lumber on each side.

STEP #6: Construct end walls.

A. Place 10" x 10" x 5'10" upright at opposite positions on each side of end wall.

B. Anchor each with one 12" drift pin through each end roof stringer into each 5'10" upright.

C. Attach with nails (6") 3" x 12" x 15' (5each end) to form end wall.

STEP #7: Bunker with at least 3 layers of neatly arranged and firmly tamped sandbags on roof and the equivlent of at least 3 layers (neatly arranged and tamped) sandbags on all sides. Side sandbags must be pyramided.

STEP #8: Construct blastwall at each entrance.

STEP #9: Install floor with available materials as time permits.

Total Materials Required:

10" x 10" 18'	.....	6
10" x 10" x 5'	.....	8
10" x 20" x 5'10"	.....	2
3" x 12" x 18'	.....	20
3" x 12" x 15'	.....	10
2" x 10" x 20"	.....	16

Sandbags..... As Needed

Drift Pins (12")..... 15

Nails (6")..... 250  
Nails (4")..... 100

Plumb Bob Assembly..... 1

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